Air Transport Association ata OF AMERICA

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AIRLINE PASSENGER TRAFFIC UP 4.4 PERCENT IN 1988 AND 5.1 PERCENT IN DECEMBER

WASHINGTON, D.C., January 19, 1988--U.S. scheduled airline passenger traffic, including domestic and international operations, increased 4.4 percent in 1988 and 5.1 percent in December, the Air Transport Association reported today.

For the year overall, domestic passenger traffic, measured in revenue passenger miles, was up 1.2 percent, and available seat miles rose 1.7 percent. The number of passengers rose to 398.2 million from 396.6 million in 1987, a 0.4 percent increase. The load factor was 61.5 percent compared to 61.8 percent for 1987.

International passenger traffic for 1988 gained 17.5 percent. Available seat miles were up 14.8 percent, and passengers increased 13.8 percent to 34.7 million. The load factor was 67.1 percent, up from 65.6 percent for 1987.

Domestic passenger traffic in December gained 1.9 percent from December, 1987. Available seat miles increased 3.0 percent. Passengers increased 1.4 percent to 31.5 million, while the load factor was 57.4 percent compared to 58.0 percent for December, 1987.

International passenger traffic of U.S. airlines in December rose 18.3 percent. Available seat miles were up 15.4 percent. Passengers increased 16.3 percent to 2.7 million, and the load factor was 61.4 percent, up from 59.9 percent in December, 1987.

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PRELIMINARY PASSENGER TRAFFIC STATISTICS
U.S. SCHEDULED AIRLINE INDUSTRY

DECEMBER 1988 - 1987

	DECEMBER			YEAR TO DATE		
	1987	1988	PERCENT CHANGE	1987	1988	PERCENT CHANGE
DOMESTIC						
PASSENGER ENPLANEMENTS (000)	31,043	31,493	1.4	396,618	398,247	0.4
REVENUE PASSENGER MILES (000)	24,864,396	25,342,294	1.9	315,568,405	319,351,231	1.2
AVAILABLE SEAT MILES (000)	42,865,594	44,138,601	3.0	510,428,605	519,360,597	1.7
LOAD FACTOR (%)	58.0	57.4		61.8	61.5	
INTERNATIONAL						
PASSENGER ENPLANEMENTS (000)	2,353	2,737	16.3	30,474	34,668	13.8
REVENUE PASSENGER MILES (000)	5,997,174	7,091,945	18.3	78,526,484	92,277,198	17.5
AVAILABLE SEAT MILES (000)	10,013,842	11,556,491	15.4	119,751,655	137,505,702	14.8
LOAD FACTOR (%)	59.9	61.4		65.6	67.1	
TOTAL						
PASSENGER ENPLANEMENTS (000)	33,396	34,230	2.5	427,092	432,915	1.4
REVENUE PASSENGER MILES (000)	30,861,570	32,434,239	5.1	394,094,889	411,628,429	4.4
AVAILABLE SEAT MILES (000)	52,879,436	55,695,092	5.3	630,180,260	656,866,299	4.2
LOAD FACTOR (%)	58.4	58.2		62.5	62.7	

CARRIERS INCLUDED: AMERICAN, CONTINENTAL, DELTA, EASTERN, NORTHWEST, PAN AM, PIEDMONT, TRANS WORLD, UNITED, USAIR, WESTERN, AIRCAL, ALASKA, ALOHA, BRANIFF, HAWAIIAN, JET AMERICA, MIDWAY, PSA, SOUTHWEST, AND TRANSTAR.